REMARKS

New claim 29 recites a feature of claim 21.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge applicants' claim for priority under 35 USC 119 and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

The Examiner is also respectfully requested to return a copy of the Form PTO-1449 filed on November 17, 1999 and to indicate thereon that the cited publications were considered and made of record.

Restriction was required under 35 USC 121 as follows:

- Group I. Claims 18 to 22, drawn to a method for monitoring a process in an animal or a human;
- Group II. Claims 23 to 28, drawn to a device for the determination of the partial pressure.

Applicants elect Group I (claims 18 to 22), with traverse.

The restriction requirement is respectfully traversed on the grounds that claim 18 and claim 23 both recite (1) an end expiratory gas from an animal or a human and (2) a signal. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the two groups of claims are so linked as to form a general inventive concept.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

Barth

Richard S.

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